PEACEMAKER

THE GOLDEN PHARAOH

THE ALARM WAS FLASHED AT CHRISTOPHER SMITH'S 'PEACE PALACE' WHEN THE EGYPTIAN INVADERS APPEARED ABOVE THE SECRET ATOMIC LABRATORIES THE COMMUNISTS HAD BUILT DEEP IN THE URAL MOUNTAINS! THE RUSSIAN SECURITY FORCE HELD THE WEIRD INVADERS OFF FOR A TIME....LONG ENOUGH FOR CHRISTOPHER SMITH TO ENTER THE FRAY AS.....

THE PEACEMAKER

QUICKLY! IT IS TIME! WITHDRAW TO THE RENDEVOUS POINT! DATSHELUT, RELEASE THE SACRED MISTS!
BLOCK THE EXITS! DON'T LET THEM ESCAPE!
IN NORTH AFRICA, UNKNOWN TO ANY RECOGNIZED GOVERNMENT, A 'REINCARNATED' PHAROAH ADDRESSES A SUPPLICATION TO AN ANCIENT GOD IN A TONGUE NOT HEARD IN 5,000 YEARS!
SUNMASTER, YOU HAVE GUIDED MY HANDS AND BROUGHT VICTORY TO MY ARMIES! EVEN NOW, THEY RETURN WITH THE PRIZE FOR WHICH I SENT THEM!
SCRIPT JOE GILL
EDITOR DICK GIORDANO
ART PAT BOYETTE

HE CLAIMS TO BE CHUFRU OF THE OLD KINGDOM (2580 B.C.) RETURNED TO RULE AFRICA AND THE WORLD! IF HE IS MAD, HIS IS THE MADNESS OF GENIUS.. FOR BEFORE HE PROCLAIMED HIS KINGDOM, CHUFRU ABSORBED THE SCIENCES OF THE WORLD HE ENTERED, AND THUS BECAME..

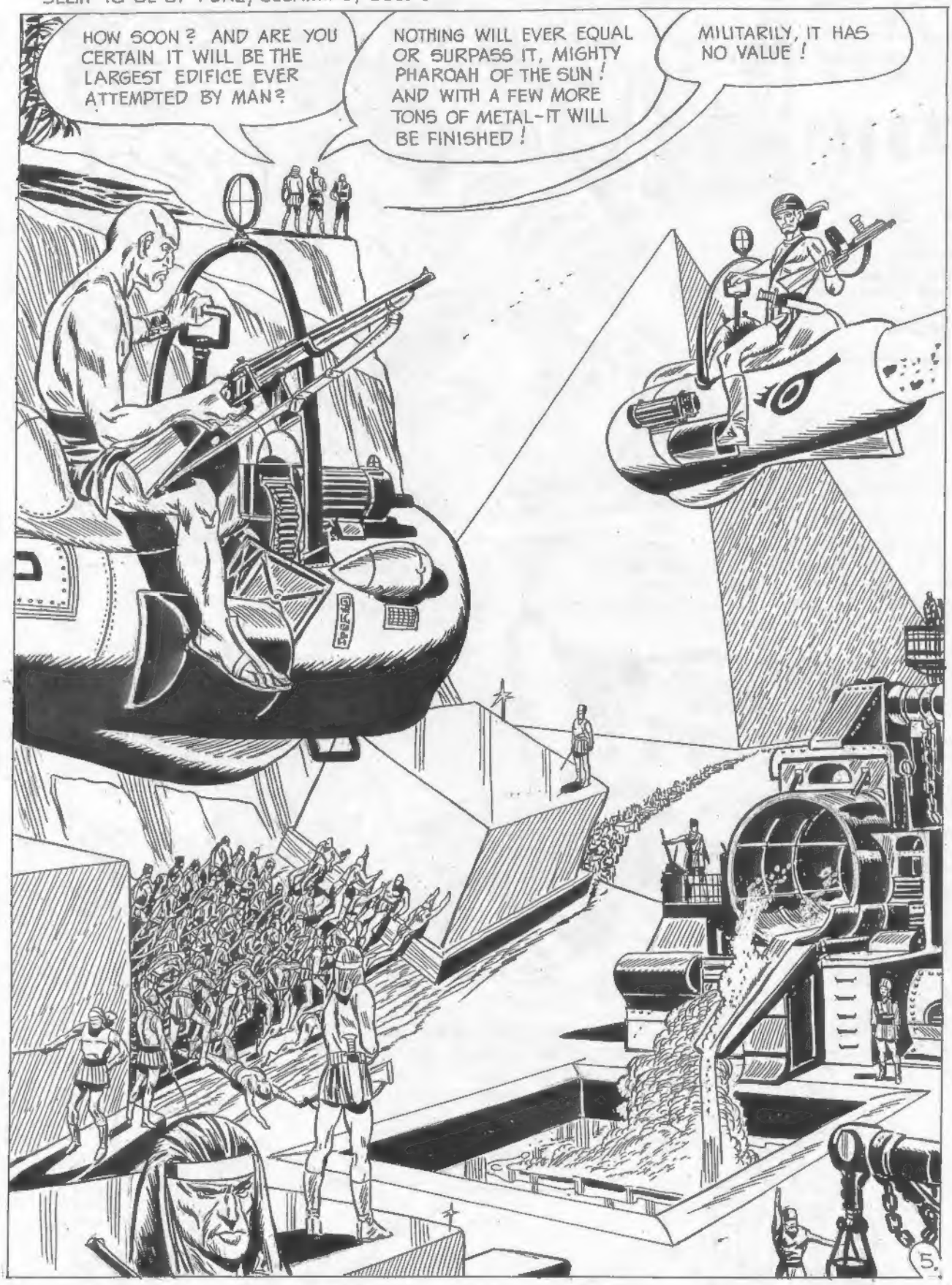
THE GOLDEN PHAROAH

JUST ONE ENEMY IS LEFT NOW AND PEACEMAKER FIRES HIS LAST EXPLOSIVE SHELL....HE DOESN'T MISS....
GOT HIM!
INSIDE THE VEHICLE THERE WAS A CANISTER OF MEDICATED, HIGHLY CONCENTRATED FOG..AND WHEN YOU NEUTRALIZED HIM, PEACEMAKER....
...YOU ALSO DID A JOB ON YOURSELF!
ASSEMBLE IN FORMATION!
ELEVEN WARRIORS LOST, TEN OF THEM TO THE WEAPONS OF THE BARBARIAN KNOWN AS THE PEACEMAKER!
GENERAL EL-KHAF REPORTS LOSSES BECAUSE OF A BEING CALLED THE PEACEMAKER, SUNKING!
I EXPECTED HIM TO MEDDLE, BUT NOT SO SOON ..AND NOT INSIDE THE IRON CURTAIN!
2.

IN THE URALS, AT THE ATOMIC LABRATORY, PEACEMAKER SHAKES OFF THE EFFECTS OF THE DRUG PRESENT IN THE FOG WHICH MASKED THE FLIGHT OF THE INVADERS...
CHUFRU, THE SUNKING, DID NOT ERR LIKE AN ORDINARY MORTAL! WHO THINKS THAT DIES! THIS PEACEMAKER BEHAVED ILLOGICALLY BY ASSISTING A NATION WITH WHICH HE IS USUALLY IN CONFLICT!
PHEW! THANKS TO MY INDEPENDENT OXYGEN SUPPLY I'M CONSCIOUS..BUT THE OTHERS MAY REMAIN IN THEIR COMA FOR HOURS!
THERE WAS QUITE A FIGHT OUT HERE! LOOKS LIKE THE REDS GOT THE WORST OF IT!
HERE COMES SOMEONE WHO'LL TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED!
I CAME TO HELP YOUR SECURITY FORCE DEFEND THE NUCLEAR LABRATORY WE WERE SUCCESSFUL, I BELIEVE!
YOU FOOL! THEY WERE NOT AFTER NUCLEAR TRASH!
THEY TOOK THE GOLD! ALL THAT BEAUTIFUL, SHINING, CAPITALISTIC GOLD! SNIF!
3.

BACK AT PEACE PALACE, AND HAVING BECOME CHRISTOPHER SMITH, EX-DIPLOMAT, ARMS COLLECTOR AND SOMETIMES INVENTOR, PEACEMAKER BRIEFS NORA O'ROURKE ON WHAT IS HAPPENING...
.. AND ALTHOUGH THE KREMLIN CANNOT ADMIT THAT THEIR GOLD RESERVES HAVE BEEN STOLEN .. WE KNOW IT IS GONE...
...AND THERE IS MORE! I BELIEVE THAT OTHER GREAT NATIONS HAVE SUFFERED SIMILAR LOSSES! AT THIS MOMENT THE SECTRETARY OF THE TREASURY HAS ASKED FOR A SECRET CABINET MEETING AND ALL TRANSACTIONS IN GOLD HAVE BEEN CANCELED! NEW HAIR STYLE?
YES - LIKE IT?
IN NORTH AFRICA, CHUFRU HAS JUST WELCOMED GENERAL EL-KHAF WHO IS TAKING HIM TO THE SUNGOD'S PIT...
THE MAN WHO HAS THE RUSSIAN GOLD ALSO HAS LOOTED FORT KNOX AND OTHER GOLD STORAGE VAULTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES.!! I LIKE IT VERY MUCH!
WELL DONE EL-KHAF! WITH ME TO LEAD AND YOU TO CARRY OUT MY ORDERS, ANCIENT EGYPT WILL RISE TO RULE THE WORLD ONCE MORE!
THERE ARE TONS AND TONS OF SUN METAL, SUNKING!
4.

HERE IS A MADMAN'S DREAM... BUT ALMOST A REALITY! IT IS A VAST GOLDEN PYRAMID DWARFING THE TOWERING MONUMENTS ERECTED BY THE PHAROAHS 5000 YEARS BEFORE... RAISED AT THE COST OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF LIVES! BUT, THEY ARE OF GRANITE AND LIMESTONE, COARSE MATERIALS INDEED, COMPARED TO CHUFRU'S MASSIVE BLOCKS..WHICH SEEM TO BE OF PURE, GLEAMING, GOLD!


HOW SOON? AND ARE YOU CERTAIN IT WILL BE THE LARGEST EDIFICE EVER ATTEMPTED BY MAN?
NOTHING WILL EVER EQUAL OR SURPASS IT, MIGHTY PHAROAH OF THE SUN! AND WITH A FEW MORE TONS OF METAL-IT WILL BE FINISHED!
MILITARILY, IT HAS NO VALUE!
5.

NORA O' ROURKE, A HIGHLY COMPETENT (IF SOMEWHAT BELLIGERENT) YOUNG LADY, HAS GIVEN THOUGHT TO THE SUBJECT OF GOLD IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS....
I SEE - YOU DEDUCED FROM MINOR NEWS ITEMS CONCERNING DEFERMENT OF GOLD SHIPMENTS, A RISE IN BLACK MARKET GOLD PRICES, AND...
ONLY ONCE BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF MAN WAS AN ATTEMPT MADE TO GATHER ALL THE GOLD KNOWN TO EXIST...
AN EGYPTIAN PHARAOH, CHUFRU, OF THE OLD KINGDOM, WORSHIPPED THE SUN AND ERECTED GREAT STATUES AND TEMPLES.. WHICH WERE DESTROYED AND THE GOLD SMELTED INTO COINS AND MEDALS!
WAIT, NORA! I RECALL THE WORK OF AN EGYPTIAN METALLURGIST OF A FEW YEARS AGO.. HIS NAME WAS CHUFRU! HE WAS ALSO AN OUTSTANDING PHYSICIST AND CHEMIST!
DIDN'T YOU SAY THE RAIDERS IN THE URALS WERE OF EGYPTIAN ORIGIN?
HOLD THE FORT, NORA, AND RELAY ALL URGENT MESSAGES TO ME BY RADIO! I'LL FLY AN ULTRA-HIGH RECONNAISSANCE OVER THE AFRICAN CONTINENT, USING THE NEW INFRA-SCANNERS!
6.

THERE HE GOES..THE ONE MAN WHO MIGHT BLOCK OUR SUNKING'S PLANS!
NOW, THE WOMAN! WE HAVE THE BLUEPRINTS OF THIS SO-CALLED PEACE PALACE! COME!
THE VENTILATION SYSTEM IS INSIDE..HAVE THE GAS CANISTER READY!

IN PEACEMAKER'S LABRATORY, NORA, THE ONLY OTHER PERSON PERMITTED INSIDE, IS ABOUT TO SWITCH THE POWERFUL TRANSMITTER TO 'ON' SO THAT SHE MIGHT RELAY A MESSAGE THAT HAS JUST ARRIVED....

PEACEMAKER FROM SECRETARY, URGENT MESSAGE FROM...I..I..
NORA! NORA! CONTINUE! NORA! ..WHAT'S WRONG?
PEACEMAKER'S WORKSHOP AND CASTLE WILL BE RUBBLE 60 SECONDS FROM NOW...
END PART ONE

PART TWO THE GOLDEN PYRAMID

AT 270,000 FEET, FAR ABOVE THE RANGE OF ANY ROCKET, SHELL, OR MISSILE, PEACEMAKER FLIES AT MACH 3 SPEED (2000 MPH) WITH HIS ELECTRONIC SCANNERS SEARCHING THE CONTINENT BELOW....

SOMETHING HAPPENED TO NORA..OR PERHAPS IT WAS ONLY A POWER OR EQUIPMENT FAILURE!
I GET A READING INDICATING A VAST CONCENTRATION OF METAL WHICH IS NOT MATCHED BY A PREVIOUS READING OF THE LAND BELOW!
ALMOST DIRECTLY BELOW, CHUFRU GETS WORD OF THE HIGH-FLYING AIRCRAFT FAR ABOVE!
I KNOW THE PEACEMAKER'S JET CARRIES THE MOST SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS SYSTEMS IN THE WORLD.. BUT HE IS ABOUT TO BE ERADICATED BY THE OLDEST AND MOST POWERFUL FORCE IN THE UNIVERSE! ORDER THE REFLECTORS TO STAND READY!

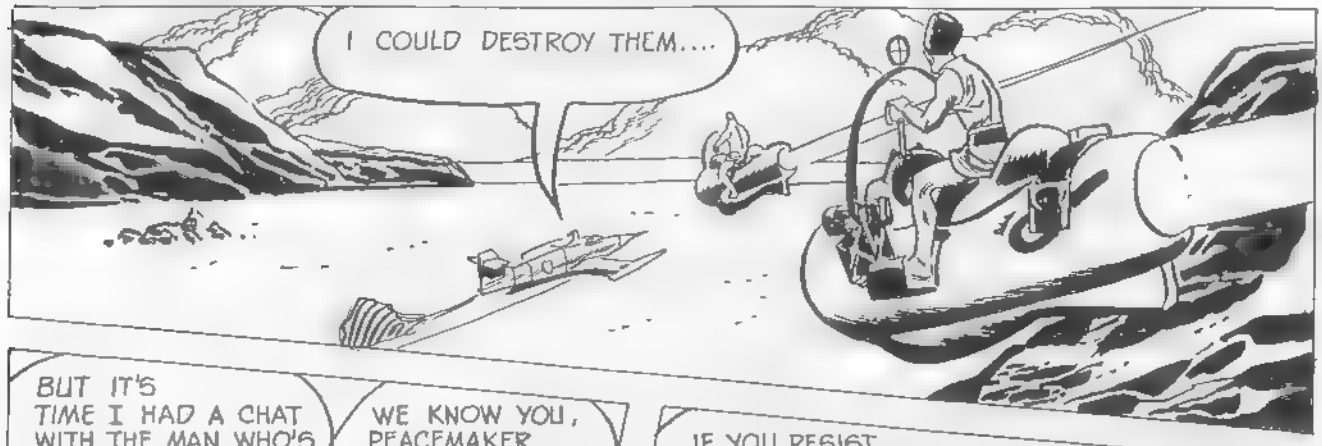
HUGE CONCAVE MIRRORS, DESIGNED BY CHUFRU TO FOCUS THE SUN'S LIMITLESS HEAT AT ANY DISTANCE, RING THE HUGE GOLDEN PYRAMID! THERE ARE SIXTY SPACED AROUND IT.....

AT 250,000 FEET, THE CONVERGENT BEAM WILL GENERATE 40,000 DEGREES CENTIGRADE ON ANY OBJECT!
AN INSTRUMENT ON PEACEMAKER'S INSTRUMENT PANEL BEGINS TO GLOW..IT INDICATES A LIGHT-RAY IS ABOUT TO STRIKE.. AND WITH ONLY THIS INFINITESIMAL WARNING, P.M. BANKS SHARPLY....
FOCUSED SUNLIGHT.. THE ENERGY OF THE SUN CHANNELED AT ONE OBJECT.. NO ABSORBENT MATTER COULD WITHSTAND THE HEAT!
... THE TINFOIL WILL REFRACT ONLY A SMALL FRACTION OF THE HEAT BUT....
... BUT ALL MATTER IS NOT ABSORBENT! A MIRROR REFLECTS HEAT.. AND, WHILE I HAVE NO MIRROR..I CARRY FOIL WHICH I'VE USED TO CONFUSE ENEMY RADAR!

...IT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO WARM THEM UP DOWN THERE!
THE REFLECTED HEAT FROM THE ALUMINUM FOIL BLINDS AND BLISTERS THE MEN OF CHUFRU....
NOW TO PHOTOGRAPH THE METALLIC MASS INDICATED ON MY SCANNER!
ONE SIDE! THIS LASER RAY WILL BRING HIM TUMBLING OUT OF THE SKY LIKE A WILD TERN ABOVE THE MARSHES OF THE NILE!
THE KNIFING LASER RAY CUTS THROUGH THE BLACKNESS OF NEAR SPACE, BUT PEACEMAKER TAKES EVASIVE ACTION....
WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

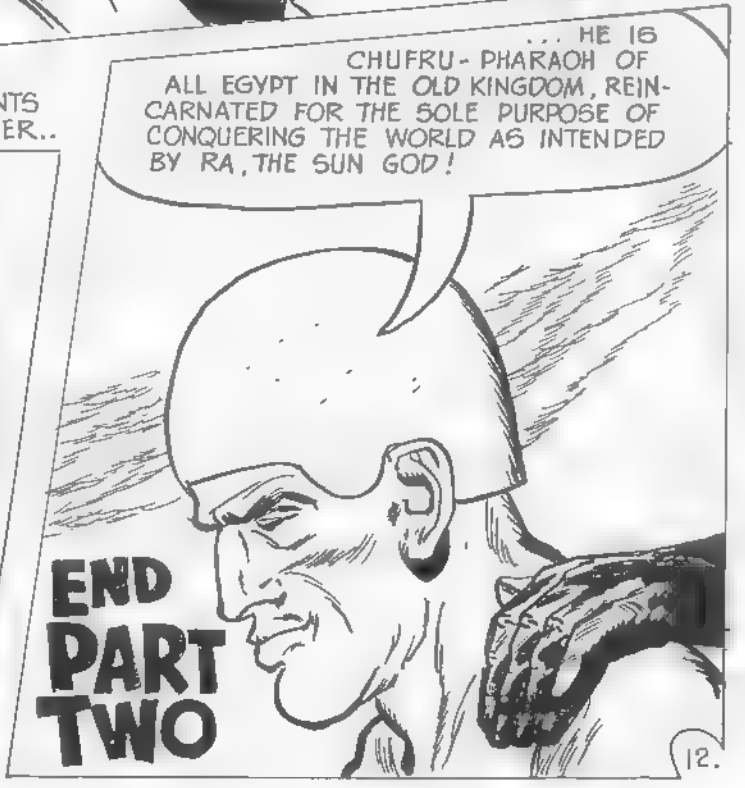
IT'S CLOSER ALL THE TIME!
COMPRESSOR IN JET ENGINE IS DESTROYED!
PEACEMAKER IS LOSING ALTITUDE, SUNKING!
PLENTY OF LEVEL PLACES IN THIS EMPTY DESERT! I'LL MAKE A POWER-OFF LANDING....
MADE IT!

BUT THE DESERT ISN'T AS EMPTY AS THE PEACEMAKER BELIEVED! THE SUNKING'S AIR CAVALRY HURTLES ACROSS THE BARREN MOUNTAINS AND....



BUT IT'S TIME I HAD A CHAT WITH THE MAN WHO'S BEHIND ALL THIS!
WE KNOW YOU, PEACEMAKER... YOU HAVE MANY WEAPONS... BUT THEY ARE OF NO USE TO YOU NOW!

PEACEMAKER MOUNTS A JET VEHICLE, AND AN INSTANT LATER..


... HE IS CHUFRU-PHARAOH OF ALL EGYPT IN THE OLD KINGDOM, REINCARNATED FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF CONQUERING THE WORLD AS INTENDED BY RA, THE SUN GOD!

END PART TWO

PART THREE THE GOLDEN GOAL

CHUFRU, THE REINCARNATED SUNKING, GREETS HIS PRISONER...AND PEACEMAKER KNOWS THAT AT LAST HE WILL LEARN THE REASON BEHIND THE INCREDIBLE LOOTING OF THE ENTIRE WORLD SUPPLY OF GOLD!

YOU ARE PEACEMAKER... A MAN WHO PROCLAIMS FOR PEACE, BUT WHO IS CAPABLE OF INFINITE VIOLENCE WHEN YOU ARE CROSSED!
YOU KNOW ME...I KNOW YOU.. BUT UNLIKE OTHERS WHO JUDGE YOU, I AM NOT WILLING TO CALL YOU MAD UNTIL I KNOW YOU BETTER!
I WILL SHOW YOU HOW SANE I AM! COME LET US SEE WHAT LIES INSIDE THE GOLDEN PYRAMID!
HAVE YOUR DOCTORS TAKE GOOD CARE OF MISS O'ROURKE, CHUFRU...THAT, LEST YOU MISSED IT..IS A THREAT!

INSIDE THE PYRAMID THERE IS SPACE! DISTANCE! DEPTH! IN FACT, THE GOLDEN PYRAMID IS A VAST ROOF OVER A TREMENDOUS PIT DUG INTO THE DESERT!

THE FIRST STAGE OF MY PLAN IS COMPLETE! I'VE SEIZED 99% OF THE GOLD IN THE WORLD AND USED IT TO THICKLY SHIELD THE HUGE GRANITE BLOCKS OF THIS MONUMENT!
WHY, PHAROAH ?
GOLD IS EVEN MORE EFFECTIVE THAN LEAD TO SHIELD OUT RADIATION IN A WORLD DEVASTATED BY NUCLEAR WAR!
I HAVE JUST SENT RELEASES TO THE NEWS AGENCIES ANNOUNCING THE THEFT OF GOLD FROM FORT KNOX AND THE URAL CAVERNS!
THE NEWS IS ALREADY CAUSING TERROR AND CHAOS IN WALL ST., LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE, AND PARIS! THERE WILL BE AN INSTANT DEPRESSION.. COUNTRIES WILL ACCUSE EACH OTHER OF MY CRIMES!
THEN.. I'LL DROP JUST HALF A DOZEN BOMBS.... ENOUGH TO BEGIN REPRISAL ATTACKS BY THE GREAT NUCLEAR POWERS!
YOU FIEND MILLIONS WILL DIE! OUR CIVILIZATION WILL BE DESTROYED!
EXACTLY! THEN, I WILL RELEASE MY PEOPLE... AND WE WILL ESTABLISH THE CULTURE OF THE OLD KINGDOM ACROSS THE WORLD!
14.

..AND MY NEXT MOVE IS TO ELIMINATE YOU!
YOU SHALL DIE PEACEMAKER!
PERHAPS, BUT YOU WILL BE DEAD BEFORE ME!
AN ALARM SOUNDS ..CHUFRU'S PALACE GUARDS RUSH PEACEMAKER!
PUT ME DOWN!.. AND EARN YOURSELF A MERCIFUL DEATH!
I'M NOT GOING TO DIE, CHUFRU!
KLANG
...THIS IS THE HEART OF CHUFRU'S PLAN..WITH HIS THOUSANDS OF WARRIORS AND TECHNICIANS, WITH HIS EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, HE IS CONFIDENT THAT HE ALONE WILL SURVIVE THE NUCLEAR WAR HE PLANS TO PRECIPATE!
NOTHING CAN STOP ME, PEACEMAKER!
YOU POWER MAD FOOL... YOU'RE STOPPED ALREADY!
LANG
15.

HUGE VENTILATORS FILTER AND CLEAN THE AIR.. BUT THEY'RE BUILT TO HANDLE NORMAL POLLUTANTS! AN OIL FIRE WILL BREAK THE SYSTEM DOWN.. AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT PEACEMAKER IS GIVING THEM....

PEACEMAKER IS SETTING THE TANKS ON FIRE! QUICKLY! GET THE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS!

AN OIL DRUM IS SMASHED...

BOOM

WE WILL DIE IN THIS HUGE GRAVE! OF WHAT WORTH ARE CHUFRU'S PROMISES NOW!

AT LAST IN RESPONSE TO THE SUNKING'S FRANTIC SUMMONS, THE TINY JET DESTROYERS . . . HURTLE DOWN TO THE ATTACK...!!

DESTROY PEACEMAKER IN ANY WAY YOU CAN! USE MISSILES, RAYS OR CRASH HIM IF YOU MUST .. BUT KILL!

I MUST REACH NORA BEFORE CHUFRU REMEMBERS AND USES HER AS A HOSTAGE!

RRRR

KEEPERS OF THE PORTALS! DROP THE NETS!
ANOTHER OF CHUFRU'S CLEVER DEVICES! IF I USE MAXIMUM POWER..!
WE'VE GOT HIM!
HE CAN'T GET AWAY!
I WISH HE COULD!
LOOK OUT!
I'VE GOT TO USE JET AND ATOMIC POWER.. PLUS THE LASER BEAM AND SMASH A HOLE OUT OF HERE!

THE EARTH ITSELF TREMBLES AT THE IMPACT AS PEACEMAKER SMASHES THROUGH GRANITE AND GOLD TO FREEDOM....

IF PEACEMAKER TRIES TO HARM ME... YOU WILL DIE?
OH, WE DON'T NEED HIM....
I CAN HANDLE THE HARMING!
SMACK
ITS ALL A PART OF MY SECRETARIAL TRAINING.. AND I'M A VERY GOOD SECRETARY!
NORA... I..
YOU ARRIVED JUST IN TIME.... TO TAKE ME HOME!

BUT HOME WILL NEVER BE EXACTLY THE SAME AGAIN! CHUFRU'S BOMB HAS DONE A DEVASTATING JOB ON THE PEACE PALACE!

WELL... IF CHUFRU CAN BUILD A PYRAMID... I GUESS I CAN RE-BUILD A CHALET!
I'M CERTAIN YOU CAN... AND BE FINISHED IN TIME TO ATTEND CHUFRU'S TRIAL!
THE END